

REMARKS

Claims 1-55 are pending in the present application.

Claims 1, 33-36 and 41-45 are currently amended.

Claims 47-55 are newly entered dependent claims.

No new matter is raised by the amendment and no new issues are raised.

Reconsideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

The claims are believed to be allowable for the reasons set forth herein. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) and 1.84(u)(1).

Corrected drawings are provided herewith.

The specification is amended to reference the elements of the drawing and to correct the summary description.

Claim Objections

Claims 36 and 45 are objected to due to informalities. Claims 36 and 45 have been amended thereby rendering the objection moot.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103

Claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 45 and 46 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873).

Kano et al. is cited as disclosing a stimuable phosphor screen. The Office correctly notes that Kano et al. fails to recite an explicit description of a polymeric film containing polymers of silazane or siloxazane polymers with compatible film forming polymers.

Benz et al. is cited as teaching silazane or siloxazane type polymers with film-forming polymers. Applicants respectfully disagree. Benz et al. fails to recite a siloxazane type polymer. Siloxazanes are compounds which contain the unit O-Si-N and the term polysiloxazane includes oligomeric and polymeric siloxazanes which are compounds including two or more monomeric siloxazane units. Benz et al. fails to recite such compounds as clearly illustrated in the infrared spectrum.

The Office has implied on page 7 of the Action that silazane and oxygen represent siloxazane. Applicants respectfully disagree. There is no formation of O-Si-N bond generated by heating in the presence of oxygen. This is supported by the infrared spectra presented in Benz et al.

Independent claims 1 and 45 have been amended to specifically recite that the polymeric film contains a compatible film-forming polymer. Benz et al. fails to recite any addition of a film forming polymer in the protective layer.

Claims 5, 9, 13, 17 and 21 ultimately depend from claim 1 and therefore are patentable over the cited references for, at least, the same reasons as claim 1.

Claim 46 depends from claim 45 and further recites that the film forming polymer is selected from urethane acrylate and silazane. Claim 46 is patentable over the cited references for, at least, the same reasons as claim 45.

The rejection of claims 1, 5, 9, 13, 17, 21, 45 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. is improper due, at least, to the failure of the combination to recite a mixture of the recited silicon containing polymers with an additional film forming polymer. Applicants respectfully request that the rejection be withdrawn in favor of a notice of allowance.

Claims 2, 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in

view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Arakawa et al. (USP 4,863,826).

Kano and Benz et al. have been discussed above and the comments are equally applicable here.

The Office correctly notes that Kano fails to explicitly disclose a transparent organic film subbing layer. Arakawa et al. is cited as disclosing such a layer.

Arakawa et al. fails to provide any further teaching regarding the transparent layer at issue. Therefore, Arakawa et al. fails to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary references with which it is combined. Claims 2, 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22 are patentable for, at least, the same reasons as claim 1 from which they depend.

The rejection of claims 2, 6, 10, 14, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Arakawa et al. is overcome. The combination of references fails to recite, at least, a mixture of the recited silicon containing polymers with an additional film forming polymer.

Claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) as

applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Homme (US 2003/0160185).

Kano and Benz et al. have been discussed above and the comments are equally applicable here.

The Office has correctly noted that Kano fails to recite polyparaxylylene. Homme is cited as teaching polyparaxylylene.

Homme fails to provide any further teaching regarding the transparent layer at issue. Therefore, Homme fails to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary references with which it is combined. Claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43 are patentable for, at least, the same reasons as claim 1 from which they each ultimately depend.

The rejection of claims 3, 7, 11, 15, 19, 23, 33, 35, 37, 39, 41 and 43 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Homme is overcome. The combination of references fails to recite, at least, a mixture of the recited silicon containing polymers with an additional film forming polymer.

Claims 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 36, 40 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) and

Arakawa et al. (USP 4,863,826) as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Homme (US 2003/0160185).

The combination of Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and further in view of each of Arakawa et al. and Homme et al. has been discussed above and all previous comments are applicable herein.

Each claim is rejected for the reasons of record which have been previously discussed. In summary, Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. fails to recite a layer comprising the silicon polymer recited and a film-forming polymer. Neither Arakawa et al. nor Homme et al. mitigate this primary deficiency. The rejection is therefore improper and overcome.

The rejection of claims 4, 8, 12, 16, 20, 24, 36, 40 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Homme is improper due to the failure of the combined references to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 25 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) as applied to claims 17 and 21 above and further in view of Karellas (USP 5,864,146).

Kano et al. and Benz et al. have been discussed relative to claims 17 and 21 above and all comments presented are relevant herein.

The Office states that the modified sensor of Kano et al. lacks a teaching wherein the imaging device is a CCD. Karellas is cited as recited a CCD in order to obtain a more accurate resolution. Karellas fails, however, to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary reference regarding a layer comprising the recited silicon polymer and a film-forming polymer.

The rejection of claims 25 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. as applied to claims 17 and 21 above and further in view of Karellas is improper due to the failure of the combined references to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 26 and 30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. as applied to claims 18 and 22 above, and further in view of Karellas et al.

Kano et al., Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. have been discussed relative to claims 18 and 22 above and all comments presented are relevant herein.

The Office states that the modified sensor of Kano et al. lacks a teaching wherein the imaging device is a CCD. Karellas is cited as recited a CCD in order to obtain a more accurate resolution. Karellas fails, however, to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary references regarding a layer comprising the recited silicon polymer and a film-forming polymer.

The rejection of claims 26 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. as applied to claims 18 and 22 above and further in view of Karellas is improper due to the failure of the combined references to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 27 and 31 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) and Homme (US 2003/0160185) as applied to claims 19 and 23 above, and further in view of Karellas et al. (USP 5,864,146).

Kano et al., Benz et al. and Hommes have been discussed relative to claims 19 and 23 above and all comments presented are relevant herein.

The Office states that the modified sensor of Kano et al. lacks a teaching wherein the imaging device is a CCD. Karellas is cited as recited a CCD in order to obtain a more accurate resolution. Karellas fails, however, to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary reference regarding a layer comprising the recited silicon polymer and a film-forming polymer.

The rejection of claims 27 and 31 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and Homme as applied to claims 19 and 23 above and further in view of Karellas is improper due to the failure of the combined references to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 28 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873), Arakawa et al. (US 4,863,826) and Homme (US 2003/0160185) as applied to claims 20 and 24 above, and further in view of Karellas et al. (USP 5,864,146).

Kano et al., Benz et al. Arakawa and Hommes have been discussed relative to claims 20 and 24 above and all previous comments are relevant herein.

The Office states that the modified sensor of Kano et al. lacks a teaching wherein the imaging device is a CCD. Karellas is cited as recited a CCD in order to obtain a more accurate resolution. Karellas fails, however, to mitigate the deficiencies of the primary reference regarding a layer comprising the recited silicon polymer and a film-forming polymer.

The rejection of claims 28 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al., Arakawa et al. and Homme as applied to claims 20 and 24 above and further in view of Karellas is improper due to the failure of the combined references to teach the claimed invention.

Claims 34, 38 and 42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. (USP 4,741,993) in view of Benz et al. (USP 4,830,873) and Arakawa et al. (US 4,863,826) as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Homme (US 2003/0160185).

Kano et al. Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. have been discussed above with reference to claim 2 and all comments are equally applicable here.

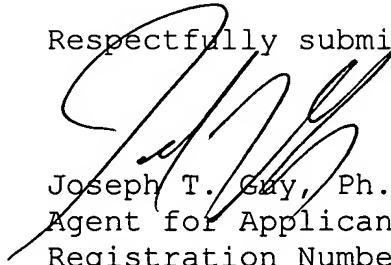
Homme is discussed above with reference to claim 3 and all comments are equally applicable here. In summary, Hommes fails to mitigate the deficiencies of Kano et al., Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. particularly in regards to the lack of any teaching directed to the silicon containing polymers with additional film forming polymer.

The rejection of claims 34, 38 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kano et al. in view of Benz et al. and Arakawa et al. as applied to claim 2 above, and further in view of Homme is improper due to the failure of the combined references to recite the silicon containing polymers with additional film forming polymer.

CONCLUSIONS

Claims 1-55 are pending in the present application. All claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Notice thereof is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Joseph T. Gray, Ph.D.
Agent for Applicants
Registration Number 35,172
Customer No.: 46591

December 14, 2006